LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6625 NOTE PREPARED: Dec 13, 2002

BILL NUMBER: HB 1278 BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Tuition exemption for survivors of EMTs and paramedics.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Crooks

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL IMPACT: State

DEDICATED FEDERAL

<u>Summary of Legislation:</u> This bill adds the children and surviving spouses of paramedics, emergency medical technicians (EMTs), and advanced emergency medical technicians to the list of persons who are eligible for tuition exemptions at state supported colleges, universities, and technical schools if their parent or spouse was killed in the line of duty.

Effective Date: July 1, 2003.

Explanation of State Expenditures: According to the Emergency Medical Service Commission, there are about 17,121 certified emergency medical technicians, advanced emergency medical technicians, and paramedics. There are approximately 12,123 active police and firemen. The Student Assistance Commission projects that 7 children and 2 spouses of police and firefighters killed in the line of duty will be attending state universities during FY 2004 and FY 2005.

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Fee Remission Program	FY 2004	FY 2005
Children of deceased police or firefighters		
Number	7	7
Awards	\$37,503	\$42,566
Average Award	\$5,358	\$6,081
Spouse of deceased police or firefighters		
Number	2	2
Awards	\$3,072	\$3,492
Average Award	\$1,536	\$1,746

Assuming the experience for the emergency medical technician and paramedics is similar to the current experience, then about 10 additional children and 3 spouses might attend state universities. The estimated cost of the 13 tuition exemptions would be \$58,100 for FY 2004 and \$66,000 for FY 2005. Prior to the 2001-2002 school year, the program was administered by each university. The program is now administered by the Student Assistance Commission and is a line item in their budget.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: State Universities.

Local Agencies Affected:

<u>Information Sources:</u> Expenditure Schedule XXII from Student Assistance Commission's 2003-05 Operating Budget Requests, Emergency Medical Services' June 21, 2002, commission meeting minutes, and PERF Police and Fire Actuarial Report

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